

June 4, 2019

Mr. Barnaby Lewis, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Gila River Indian Community  
P.O. Box 2193  
Sacaton, AZ 85147

**RE: Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act – Protection of Archaeological Sites on Florence Copper Property**

Dear Mr. Lewis:

I am writing in accordance with Stipulation VII.B of the memorandum of agreement (MOA) for the Florence Copper In-Situ Copper Production Test Facility (FC PTF), which indicates that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and FC will address comments on the annual reviews of the MOA and recommend actions to be taken if appropriate. In your letter dated 24 January 2019, regarding the *2018 Annual Summary and Review*, you had commented concerning (1) corrected site boundaries and (2) security procedures.

WCRM archaeologists became aware of the need to revise site boundaries soon after initiating the site condition assessments as reported in the *2017 Annual Summary and Review*. They worked throughout 2017 and 2018 re-mapping sites; they concentrated initially on sites that might be affected by the FC PTF, but eventually re-mapped all of the National Register-eligible sites and sites of undetermined eligibility throughout FC-owned property as well as those within the 160-acre mineral lease that FC holds from the Arizona State Land Department.

The revised map is included in the *2018 Annual Summary and Review* as Figure 2. FC was apprised of all corrections as they occurred to ensure that the map used in planning is up-to-date. As demonstrated by the site condition assessments conducted in 2017 and 2018, no sites were compromised by any PTF-related activities. I want to assure you that the revised map is being used as a replacement for the now-superseded site location map (Figure 3) in the 2014 *Historic Properties Treatment Plan* with regard to all of the site protection and avoidance measures outlined in that document and in the MOA.

As noted in the *2018 Annual Summary and Review*, FC employs stringent security procedures to ensure site protection. No one, including employees and construction workers, is allowed to enter FC property without receiving “site-specific training,” which includes the need to protect archaeological sites. The training is good for the year in which it is taken; new training is required each year. FC has a zero-tolerance policy when it comes to driving off of existing roads, which could disturb sites, or collecting artifacts. FC’s security system focuses on controlling access to the property to ensure against trespass and disturbance, and asset protection. A security guard is on-site at all times. Surveillance cameras in the main

administration building are monitored, and each security officer makes numerous vehicle and foot patrols throughout the property during his or her shift. After the (foiled) copper wire theft incident reported in the *2018 Annual Summary and Review*, we increased the security patrols and changed the locks on all the gates.

If you have any questions regarding these issues, please call me at 520.374.3984 or contact me by email at [DanJohnson@FlorenceCopper.com](mailto:DanJohnson@FlorenceCopper.com).

Sincerely,

Dan Johnson  
Vice President | General Manager

Cc: Ms. Nancy Rumrill, US EPA, Region IX, Ground Water Protection Section

**FLORENCE COPPER INC.**

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